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(54) Title: PROCESS FOR INCREASING THE SELECTIVITY OF THE HYDROGENATION OF 4,4'-DIAMINODIPHENYL METHANE TO 4,4'-DIAMINOCYCLOHEXYLMETHANE IN THE PRESENCE OF AN N-ALKYL-4,4'-DIAMINODIPHENYL METHANE

(57) Abstract: The invention relates to a process for increasing the selectivity of the hydrogenation of 4,4'-diaminodiphenylmethane (4,4'-MDA) to diaminocyclohexylmethane (4,4'-HMDA) by catalytic hydrogenation of a mixture containing 4,4'-MDA as the main component and its mono-N-methyl derivative as a secondary component. According to the invention, the hydrogenation is terminated before a conversion of 4,4'-MDA to 4,4'-HMDA of 99% is achieved. Under these conditions, a substantially smaller proportion of the N-methyl-4,4'-MDA is hydrogenated to N-methyl-4,4'-HMDA.

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